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The concluding chapters on the church and literature of Russia are sketchy and unsatisfactory.

CHESTER LLOYD JONES.

University of Wisconsin.

ASCHAFFENBURG, GUSTAV. *Crime and Its Repression*. Pp. xxviii, 331. Price, \$4.00. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1913.

HOPKINS, TIGHE. *Wards of the State*. Pp. viii, 340. Price, \$3.00. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1913.

In order to arouse the public conscience in regard to any social wrong, two things are necessary. First, a careful collection of data must be made and generalized in a scientific manner. Second, upon the basis of this knowledge there must be a persistent propaganda. Both these demands are being met in the modern literature of criminology and penology. To the first type belongs the work of Aschaffenburg; to the second, that of Hopkins.

Crime and Its Repression is a careful, critical and constructive piece of scientific work. It is based upon German conditions, but its method is equally applicable to any other country. Theories in regard to crime are examined in the light of obtainable facts and, in numerous instances, are shown to rest upon insufficient data. The thing that impresses the reader throughout the work is the emphasis laid upon the necessity of seeking adequate causes for the phenomena.

Parts I and II are devoted respectively to the consideration of the social causes, and the individual causes of crime. In the former are discussed those causes which lie outside the individual in changes of season, race and religion, city and country, occupations, alcohol, prostitution, gambling, and economic and social conditions. The method is one of careful criticism of available statistics as one of the chief sources of erroneous conclusions; but no effort is made to discredit their use. In the latter, the causes which lie within the individual are studied. These include parentage and training, education, age, sex, domestic status, physical and mental characteristics of criminals and mental diseases. Neither heredity nor environment alone is sufficient to exhibit the real nature of the anti-social act we call crime. It is the joint product of all the elements involved, and can be understood only when all factors are given their full value.

Not until this survey is made are we prepared to consider the treatment of the criminal which the author reviews in Part III under the caption, *The Struggle Against Crime*. Here in the same critical manner are reviewed such subjects as prevention, responsibility, the purpose and means of punishment, indemnification, suspended sentence, probation, etc. In his conclusions, the author may be classed among the leading advocates of the individualization of punishment. In fact, the only sane method of repression is not in the repression of the unfortunate victim, but in the elimination of the causes which create the victim.

This volume is the sixth in the list of foreign books selected for translation by the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology.

The author of *Wards of the State* for years has been in the position to

make first-hand observations of the methods and the results of imprisonment of offenders, and has presented this treatise for the purpose of arousing the public mind to action in regard to the elimination of palpable social wrongs.

Beginning with the statement that "Imprisonment, its effects upon the prisoner and the prejudice it creates against him in the public mind" are the chief topics of consideration, he describes in graphic style the conditions of penal servitude and prison labor at Portland and other institutions, and shows the old archaic system now so thoroughly discredited has not yet been displaced even in enlightened England. This is the content of Part I.

Part II, labeled Preventive is a treatise of only one aspect of the subject of prevention—that of detection and identification of criminals. Chapters are devoted to the subjects of Bertillonage and the finger print, crime and the microscope, crime and the camera, the police dog, the jiu-jitsu for the police. These chapters are interesting and informing reading, but one may affirm as certainly of these as the author does of the prison, that the efficacy of these methods perfected to ever so high a degree would have little or no perceptible influence in the diminution of crime. If the prison itself is no deterrent, it is hard to see how a system that would result in putting more men into prison would increase its value as a preventive.

Part III contains two excellent chapters on the futility of flogging and the inequality of sentences but its chief burden is the demonstration of the failure of imprisonment, either to diminish crime or to work the reformation of the criminal. He regards the prison as "the tragi-comedy of our day," graduating the offender to a criminal career, and branding him with a stigma that makes it impossible for him ever to have a fair chance for normal life. The greatest condemnation of the prison is the absolute lack of confidence on the part of the public in its product. Chapter XX, entitled New Horizons, is the only constructive portion of the book. Here the author sketches the outline of a real system of "prevention" through the treatment of the causes of crime; the abandonment of retaliative and retributive punishment; the methods of rehabilitation of the offender.

The book is neither logical in its treatment nor comprehensive, and its title is something of a misnomer, yet it contains much valuable material and will tend further to render unpopular our scientifically discredited system of penal servitude.

J. P. LICHTENBERGER.

University of Pennsylvania.

BAERLEIN, HENRY. *Mexico: The Land of Unrest*. Pp. xxiv, 461. Price, \$3.75. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1913.

Existing confusion in the public mind with reference to the Mexican situation is traceable very largely to the fact that but few persons are acquainted with the antecedents of the present situation. The long period of anarchy which followed closely on the heels of the Declaration of Independence; the successive attempts to establish popular government in the absence of any of the elements upon which popular government must rest, and finally the adoption in 1853 of a constitution far in advance of the political training and